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HPSCI

OLL 84-1073/2  
20 March 1984

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN) on Terrorism

1. At the request of Congressman Dan Burton (R-IN); NIO for Counter Terrorism, David Whipple; his Deputy, [redacted] and the undersigned, visited his offices at 1400 hours on 20 March 1984 to discuss terrorism worldwide. Mr. Burton became interested in the subject after the 7 February closed hearings on terrorism before the Subcommittee on Legislation and National Security of the House Government Operations Committee. Mr. Burton claims that he talked in greater detail to Ambassador Robert Sayre following the hearing and was directed by Sayre to contact the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to read comprehensive studies on terrorism which Sayre alleged the HPSCI held. HPSCI referred Mr. Burton to the Agency which led to this briefing [redacted]

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2. Burton began the session by explaining that he was most concerned that not enough was being done by the USG to deal aggressively with terrorists who were targeting against the United States. Burton

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[redacted] said that it appeared to him as though we were trying to deal with the many "tentacles" of terrorist organizations rather than going after the coordinators. Burton cited Iran and Khomeni as a perfect example. Iran sponsors terrorist operations to accomplish political ends, and as far as Burton is concerned, the USG should be mounting operations to eliminate Khomeni. It is obvious that Burton believes this is the business of the CIA and, we are not doing our job [redacted]

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[redacted] explained that most of Burton's questions were really policy issues and recommended that Burton contact Admiral Poindexter on the NSC to discuss those issues.

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3. Burton had in his possession a seven-page list of questions on terrorism which he said were given to him by the State Department. Burton claimed that State told him that once he had the answers to all of these questions, he would know what the USG was doing in the terrorism field. In my opinion the drafter of the questions (I assume, Ambassador Sayre) believes the Intelligence Community, specifically the Agency, is not doing all it could in the terrorism field. The drafter complained that terrorism was a major threat, yet it was only given third priority.

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4. Burton said that he had hoped that he would be able to learn from us what type of legislation was necessary to allow us to attack terrorist organizations at their roots.

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Mr. Burton took my name and phone number, and promised to get in touch if he needed any additional information.

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5. This was a difficult session for [ ] to handle, but he did very well indeed. Burton expected to get some satisfaction from the Agency, but he really had policy concerns which should have been addressed by the White House. In spite of this problem, [ ] made significant progress in the education of Mr. Burton on the subject of terrorism. Burton closed the session by stating that he was supportive of the Agency and wanted to know what he could do to help us with our mission. We thanked him for his expression of support and restated our offer to brief him on any subject which might be helpful to him. 25X1 25X1 25X1

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